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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/750,585	12/28/2000	Robert C. Phillips	205469	6507

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EXAMINER

STEVENS, ROBERTA A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2665

DATE MAILED: 09/25/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/750,585

Applicant(s)

PHILLIPS ET AL.

Examiner

Roberta A Stevens

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 13, 14, 16, 20 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Taylor (U.S. 6289376 B1).

3. Regarding claims 1, 5, 6, 13, 16, 20 and 24, Taylor teaches (abstract and figures 1-6) a non-volatile data storage interface unit, or se in an information distribution system configured to distribute information assets stored upon a non-volatile data storage to users via a dynamic data transmission path including a cell-based switching fabric, the interface unit comprising: a cell transceiver connectable to a cell-based switching fabric facilitating transfer of data cells between the non-volatile data storage interface unit and the cell-based switching fabric, the cell transceiver comprising; a cell transmitter coupled to an output of the non-volatile data storage interface unit and comprising a raw data to cell data formatting circuit; and a cell receiver coupled to an input of the non-volatile data storage interface unit and comprising a cell data to raw data formatting circuit; and a first non-volatile data storage controller interposed between the cell transceiver and the non-volatile data storage, the non-volatile data storage controller comprising circuitry for retrieving and forwarding raw data from the non-volatile data storage to the cell transmitter; and receiving and storing raw data from the cell receiver to the non-volatile data storage.

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4. Regarding claims 2-3 and 14, Taylor teaches (figure 4) a buffer controller coupled to the non-volatile data storage controller.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 4, 7-12, 15, and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taylor.

7. Regarding claims 4 and 15, Taylor does not teach an ATM switch however it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to adapt an ATM switch to Taylors's system to adapt ATM protocol to the system.

8. Regarding claims 7-12 and 17-19, as for a header generator, it is inherent in Taylor's system that a header generator exists in order for the switch to properly direct the data to it's destination. As for CRC and HEC generators, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to adapt to Taylor's system these error check methods as they are well known in the art.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Merrell (U.S. 6553408), Phillips (U.S. 6438368 B1), Nguyen (U.S. 5930238), Allen

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(U.S. 5909638), Johnstn (U.S. 6064649), Rostoket (U.S. 5838904), Hunter (U.S. 6366557) and Wills (U.S. 6002692) are cited to show the state of the art.

10. Any inquiry concerning the communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roberta Stevens whose telephone number is (703) 308-6607. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:30 p.m.

11. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor can be reached on (703) 308-6602.

12. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

13. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to: (703) 746-9515

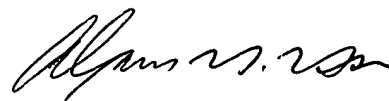
For informal draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA. Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Roberta A. Stevens

Patent Examiner

09-21-03



**ALPUS H. HSU
PRIMARY EXAMINER**